

TOKYO GAZETTE

A MONTHLY REPORT OF CURRENT POLICIES, OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND STATISTICS

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The material in the TOKYO GAZETTE is selected mainly from the *Weekly Report*, edited by the Bureau of Information. The accuracy and comprehensiveness of data presented in the *Report* are fully established. For the benefit of students of Japanese affairs, the TOKYO GAZETTE is endeavouring to maintain these qualities in the hope that its publication will eliminate unfortunate misunderstandings and thus contribute to world peace and international goodwill.

PROGRESS OF ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION IN MANCHOUKUO

BOARD OF MANCHURIAN AFFAIRS

PROGRESS in planning for the comprehensive expansion of productive power throughout Japan, Manchoukuo and North China was publicly and fully explained by the Government at the last session of the Diet. The essence of the plan is to ensure raw-material resources for the designated 15 industries of iron and steel, coal, light metals, non-ferrous metals, liquid fuel, soda and industrial salt, sulphate of ammonia, pulp, gold, wool, machine tools, railway vehicles, shipping, automobiles, and electric power. Failing this basic step, even the successful expansion of the equipment for production would not mean much in time of emergency. Fortunately, Manchoukuo possesses abundant resources for all of these industries; herein lies the fact that the plan for the expansion of productive power in Manchoukuo forms a most important part in the comprehensive programme centring around Japan. In the following pages is explained in outline the actual state of progress in the more important of those industries, progress which has been made in accordance with the five-year plan, beginning with 1937.

Iron and Steel Industry

Industrial plants forming the centre of the plan for the increased production of steel are the Showa Steel Works at Anshan, capitalized at 200,000,000 yen and the Penhsihu Colliery and Iron Works, capitalized at 100,000,000 yen¹. The former establishment had a productive capacity only of 300,000 metric tons of pig iron before the Manchurian Incident. However, with the completion of the equipment for increase of production carried out from 1933 to 1935, it came to possess, in 1938, equipment for production of 750,000 metric tons of pig iron, 580,000 metric tons of ingot steel, and 300,000 metric tons of steel materials. Furthermore, a plan for the 1,000,000-ton increase of pig iron, has been completed recently as the first step in the five-year plan, constituting a great asset to the iron and steel industry in Japan under the current emergency. Ten factories have also been established lately near the Showa Iron

¹All figures of capitalization in this article refer to authorized capital.

Works for the purpose of producing manufactured goods out of the semi-finished materials supplied by that iron works. Thus Manchuria which had not produced a single ton of steel materials before the Incident of 1931 has now developed into a full-fledged steel producing country.

The Penhsihu Colliery and Iron Works, which have hitherto been producing a special kind of pig iron containing a low percentage of phosphorus, have been charged with an important task along with the Showa Works under the five-year plan. Thus, the Penhsihu Works are constructing a blast furnace with an annual productive capacity of 500,000 tons in Miyanohara situated to the south of Penhsihu, expecting to complete it by the end of 1940. Its capital will also be increased shortly to 100,000,000 yen.

Coal Industry

Prior to 1931, the annual production of coal in Manchoukuo averaged about 8,500,000 metric tons, more than 80 per cent of which represented the output of the Fushun Coal Mine operated by the South Manchuria Railway Company. And even this amount, which can by no means be regarded as very large, could not be consumed within Manchuria; some 3,000,000 tons had to be exported to Japan proper. It happened, therefore, that the necessity of prohibiting the importation of Fushun coal was seriously discussed during the period of depression in the Japanese coal industry, the period from 1931 to 1932. The state of things, however, has now undergone a radical change; with the progress in the economic development of Manchoukuo, the demand for coal began suddenly to increase. In 1934 the Manchuria Coal Mining Company with a capital of 80,000,000 yen was established with a view to taking positive steps for the development and increased production of coal fields throughout the whole of Manchoukuo. The output has increased by leaps and bounds until it reached in 1938 to the amount twice as large as that before the Incident, of which 50 per cent was Fushun coal. In the current year the plan for increase of production will be in full swing, so that an increase of several millions will be expected.

This increase, however, is counteracted by such factors as the growth of transportation facilities, rise of industries, and increase of population, resulting in the decreasing trend in the exportation to Japan proper. To overcome this difficulty coal interests are making endeavours for further increases.

Electric Power Industry

Electric power in Manchoukuo is all produced by thermal generation. For that country, though blessed with an abundance of coal resources, has no small rivers rich in head, as in the case of Japan, and consequently no place fit for small-scale hydraulic generation plants such as those with the productive capacity of 10,000 to 20,000 kilowatts. The generating equipment for the whole of Manchuria before the upheaval in 1931 had a productive capacity of no more than 200,000 odd kilowatts. At present, it has been expanded to a capacity of more than 500,000 kilowatts, keeping pace with increased demands. This expansion of the productive capacity, however, is far from being sufficient to meet demands on the basis of the vast five-year plan. Accordingly the construction of thermal generation plants has been started in various places throughout the country; and at the same time the necessity for introduction of the hydraulic generation system has been urgently felt. It is fortunate, in this connection, that great rivers in Manchoukuo, such as the Sungari and the Yalu, are by far richer than Japanese rivers in the volume of water. Thus it has been made clear that the construction of hydraulic generation plants is feasible if large-scale power utilization is developed. In the five-year plan, therefore, the plan for hydraulic generation is included, and two large generation plants have accordingly been in construction, since 1937, on the Sungari and Yalu Rivers. The plant on the Sungari is being constructed under the direct management of the Manchoukuo Government in Tafengman situated 21 kilometres above Kirin. With the completion of a dam 81 metres high, a great lake of 545 square kilometers will emerge, enabling the production of power up to the maximum of 600,000 kilowatts. The first part of the plan, according to which power of 480,000 kilowatts will be produced, will be completed by 1941. Since this construction work includes part of the conservation work of the Sungari, the downstream area covering 160,000 chobu² will become safe from the threat of flood and that covering 72,000 chobu will be reclaimed.

On the Yalu River, generating stations with total power of 1,600,000 kilowatts will be constructed. The plant which is being constructed in Shuifeng, situated 60 kilometres upstream from Antung, by the Yalu Hydraulic Electric Power Company is estimated to produce the maximum power of 600,000 kilowatts. This company is capitalized at 100,000,000 yen, invested in jointly by the Manchoukuo Government and Korean interests, and legally in the form

²A Japanese measure of area equal to 2.4507 acres.

of two companies.

When these great power plants are completed, power rates will be considerably lowered with the result that electro-chemical industries, such as electrolytic and electric furnace industries, will become active. Already in Kirin the Manchuria Electro-Chemical Industry Company, with a capital of 30,000,000 yen, was established in 1938, while in Antung the construction of an aluminium factory under the management of the Manchuria Light Metal Company is being planned. Mention should be made here of the Manchuria Electrical Industry Company established in 1934. The concern is operating in thermal generation, excepting that operated directly by the South Manchuria Railway Company, transmission, and distribution of electricity for the whole of Manchoukuo.

Light Metal Industry

The Fushun Factory of the Manchuria Light Metal Company, which is capitalized at 50,000,000 yen, completed the first part of its construction programme last fall, and has now started the second part of the programme. The plant is manufacturing aluminium out of Manchuria aluminium shale, which is found in abundance around Fushun, by the dry smelting process successfully studied by the Central Laboratory of the South Manchuria Railway Company. The strength of this industry in Manchoukuo lies in the fact that not only the raw material, aluminium shale, but also the materials used in its manufacturing, cryolite and electrode, can be supplied from within the country. The completion of the first part of the plant has enabled it to produce annually 4,000 metric tons of the metal.

The future of the Manchuria Magnesium Industry Company established in July, 1938, with a capital of 10,000,000 yen, which is a subsidiary concern of the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation, is also to be watched with expectation. For the company has command of one of the world's greatest deposits of magnesite, found in the Tashihchiao and Haicheng districts. Its plant is now in the course of construction at Yingkow.

Liquid Fuel Industry

Manufacture of oil by the dry distillation of oil shale which covers the coal seams of the Fushun coal field, famous for open-cut mining, was started in 1930 on the basis of the successful studies and experimentations carried out by the South Manchuria Railway Company since 1925. It has now developed into a paying enter-

prise. The present equipment has the capacity to produce 150,000 metric tons of crude oil, which is mainly refined as heavy oil. Volatile oil, sulphate of ammonia and crude wax are also manufactured out of it as by-products. The new equipment with capacity of 200,000 metric tons is now under construction and its main part will be completed within 1939.

In the coal-liquefying industry Manchoukuo is somewhat ahead of Japan; and the three companies to operate in this important enterprise, namely, the South Manchuria Railway Company, the Manchuria Synthetic Fuel Company and the Manchuria Artificial Oil Industry Company, will shortly start activities. The first named company has nearly completed the construction, in Fushun, of a plant employing the direct liquefying process; the second named is constructing, in Chinchow, a plant employing the gas synthetic (Fischer's) process; and the last named has nearly completed the construction, in Ssuningkai, of a plant employing the dry hydrogenation process. Of these concerns, the Manchuria Synthetic Fuel Company and the Manchuria Artificial Oil Industry Company are capitalized at 50,000,000 yen and 20,000,000 yen respectively.

Pulp Industry

The pulp industry founded on the vast forest resources in North-eastern Manchoukuo has attracted the attention of Japanese interests ever since the founding of the new State. Plans for the undertaking have accordingly been in progress for some time, and a few companies have been able to complete the construction of their plants, getting ready for starting operations. They are: the Tobo Pulp Company with a capital of 30,000,000 yen and a plant in Kaishutun; the Manchuria Pulp Company with a capital of 10,000,000 yen and a plant in Hualin; the Japan-Manchuria Pulp Company with a capital of 10,000,000 yen and a plant in Tunhua; and the Oriental Pulp Company with a capital of 10,000,000 yen and a plant in Shihhsien. These plants each have an annual productive capacity of 15,000 metric tons.

There are also in Manchoukuo special pulp industries, such as the bean-straw pulp and reed pulp industries. The Kangteh Reed Pulp Company in Yinkow, capitalized at 5,000,000 yen, has already produced goods and the Manchuria Bean-Straw Pulp Company, capitalized at 10,000,000 yen, has nearly completed its plant in Kaiyuan. Besides, plans for large-scale enterprises in the pulp industry based on the utilization of resources in the Great and Little Khingan Range districts are now under way.

Other Industries

With regard to industries relating to non-ferrous metals, the Manchuria Lead Mine Company, which was established in 1935 with a capital of 4,000,000 yen, is producing lead and zinc from its Yang-chiachantze Mine in Chinchow Province. With regard to copper, the Manchuria Mining Company, established in 1938 with a capital of 50,000,000 yen as subsidiary concern of the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation, and the Tienpaoshan Mining Company, capitalized at 7,000,000 yen, are producing the metal. With regard to the production of gold, the mining of alluvial gold in North Manchuria has been increasing year by year through the activities of the Manchuria Gold Mining Company established in 1934 with a capital of 12,000,000 yen. The aforementioned mining companies are also making plans for mining the yellow metal in various places.

Another important industry to be given account of is the salt industry. This industry in Manchoukuo has been operated in conformity with the comprehensive Japanese plan for increasing the production of inshore salt throughout Japan proper and the Kwantung Leased Territory. For this purpose the Manchuria Salt Industry Company was established in 1936 with a capital of 5,000,000 yen. Besides, there is in operation the Manchuria Soda Company, capitalized at 5,000,000 yen, for manufacturing soda ash by utilizing raw salt produced abundantly in the country. The plant of this company in Dairen is supplying the whole country with the ash.

No less important an industry now being operated in Manchoukuo is the chemical industry. The Manchuria Chemical Industry Company, capitalized at 25,000,000 yen and having an annual productive capacity of 240,000 metric tons, is supplying the agricultural industry in Japan proper and Korea with sulphate of ammonia. This chemical fertilizer produced as a by-product in Anshan and Fushun amounts to no negligible quantity. Furthermore, in January the Manchuria Sulphate-of-Ammonia Industry Company, capitalized at 50,000,000 yen, was established through the joint investment of the Manchoukuo Government and the rural cooperatives in Japan, with the objective of an annual production of 200,000 metric tons.

With regard to the machine, and railway vehicle industries, the Dairen Machine Company, Manchuria Engineering Works, Manchuria Vehicle Company, and Dairen Dockyards and Iron Works have been active. Plans for the manufacture of automobiles and aircraft have also been in progress; certain plants are already in operation.

Business Conditions

In reviewing the progress in the economic construction of Manchoukuo, the practical and important question is whether those enterprises are being operated at a fair profit. According to an investigation conducted of the business conditions of 160 major business concerns in Manchoukuo by the Dairen Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 1937, against 1,280 million odd yen of the total paid-up capital, the total net profit amounted to 143 million odd yen, representing a profit rate of 11.2 per cent. During the period of 7 years ending in 1937 the total Japanese investment in enterprises in Manchoukuo was estimated at more than 1,900,000,000 yen. Of this amount about half was invested in transportation and communication enterprises, such as the South Manchuria Railway Company and Manchuria Telegraph and Telephone Company. Approximately 700,000,000 yen, however, is estimated to have been invested in mining and electrical enterprises. Since the industrial development programme was carried out in 1937, investments in mining and industrial enterprises have suddenly increased. These investments have been made in forms of paid-up capital and subscriptions to debentures, and more than 100,000,000 yen is annually returning to Japan as dividends and interests on them.

Development of the Eastern Border Districts

Districts lying in the southeastern border of Manchoukuo, centring around Tunghua, which is known as Tungpientao, are mountainous and sparsely populated, and consequently were somewhat backward in establishing peace and order. They have, however, been long regarded as districts possessing rich deposits of various minerals. The recent establishment of peace and order and the development of transportation facilities have rendered possible the conducting of large-scale investigations, which have revealed the fact that the deposits of mineral resources are more abundant than expected. In particular, the iron ore deposited in Talitzekow is a very rich ore containing 65 per cent or more of iron. In respect of quantity also, the Chitaokow and Laoling Iron Mines and the Tiehchangtze, Wutaochiang and Yentungkow Coal Mines have been ascertained to hold considerable amounts of deposits. With a view to comprehensive development of these resources, the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation established in August, 1938, as its subsidiary concern, the Tungpientao Development Company with a capital of 30,000,000 yen. The Manchoukuo Government

too created a few years ago, Tunghua Province, separating the districts from Antung Province, for the purpose of facilitating the development of the districts. With the completion of transportation facilities, these great resources will certainly prove to be the essential factor in establishing Manchoukuo industry, which will, in turn, contribute greatly to the augmentation of productive power in Japan.

The former country of soya beans has developed into a modern country of industry.

REVISION OF THE MILITARY SERVICE LAW

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, WAR DEPARTMENT

CERTAIN important revisions in the old provisions pertaining to the military service system have become necessary. These revisions come as a natural result of the changing state of affairs in East Asia and of reformation in all fields of domestic life within the Japanese Empire. The items of revision include: amendments to the regulations on the term of military service; conscription of ex-service men; postponement of conscription for students and the manner of this conscription; abrogation of the short-term service system; and recognition of the privilege of postponement of conscription for Japanese students in Manchoukuo Government schools.

Revision of the Term of Service

Both the development of the China Affair and the rapid change in the trend of international politics require that the Imperial forces be strengthened quickly through increases in the number of men in the services. To maintain sufficient forces in this time of conflict, the term of service needs to be lengthened and the number of new conscripts must be increased. By meeting these necessities, the Army and the Navy will be enabled to obtain and keep the required number of soldiers and sailors in arms, make the military burden of the people more equitable and lighten the weight of the military service system on domestic life.

Accordingly, under the new Law¹ the term of the supplementary reserve service for the Army has been lengthened from 12 years and four months to 17 years and four months, while that of the first reserve service for the Navy has been prolonged from four years to five years and that of the second reserve service from five years to seven years.

Change in Method of Conscription of Young Men

To meet the demand for a stronger national defence, a sizable increase in the number of conscripts is inevitable. The physical standard of soldiers must be upheld, if not raised, since the technical

¹ The Law Amending the Military Service Law, promulgated on March 8, 1939.

progress of and growing complications in modern armies require a high degree of strength and endurance in the individual soldier. Unfortunately, the physical condition of young men in Japan has tended to deteriorate in recent years, making it difficult to obtain the increased number of conscripts without adopting revisions in the old method of conscription. Therefore, necessary changes have been made in the method of selecting the young men at the physical examination for military service.

According to the old provisions pertaining to the physical standards of young men to be taken as conscripts, the minimum height of those fit for service, i.e. men who may be classed medically in Classes I and II, was fixed at 1.5 metres, and the active service men and the first supplementary untrained reservists were to be chosen from among the men with heights of 1.6 metres or above. The final selection was made by a drawing participated in by those whose height was 1.6 metres or above and who were classed medically as fit for the said service. All those who were lower in height, no matter what their other physical qualifications were, were exempted from the drawing and were enlisted as second supplementary untrained reservists.

In case the required number of those eligible for first-reserve service was unobtainable from those who measured 1.6 metres or above, the standard height was to be lowered by one millimetre at a time until the quota was filled. It may be seen that according to this method of lowering the standard height for eligibles before the final drawing took place, it was possible for a certain number of those under the standard height to be selected instead of those who measured 1.6 metres or above.

To prevent this, the new Law provides for a new method to be adopted wherein the supplementary eligibles are not allowed to draw lots with the originally eligible men measuring 1.6 metres or more.

Revised Method of Calling Ex-service Men for Training

Ex-service men constitute the most valuable asset, as it were, for recruiting soldiers in time of war. Obviously, they must be called out for training regularly to be instructed in new kinds of drills in order to keep them competent as well-trained reservists. Only in this way will the Army and the Navy be able to mobilize first-class forces quickly in time of war. The following revisions have been made in the method of calling out ex-service men for periodical training.

1. According to old provisions, the duration of training for ex-service men was fixed at less than 35 days for the Army and less than 70 days for the Navy, while the latter could be increased up to 50 days when deemed necessary. The new regulation extends this lengthening privilege to the Army also in view of the necessity of drilling army ex-service men in the advanced and more complex technique of present-day military science.

2. Formerly, first supplementary untrained reservists only were called out for actual training. Now, second supplementary untrained reservists may also be called out for this purpose.

3. Formerly, when there was a shortage in forces even with the recalling of all those under leave of absence at the time of special need, such as the stationing of garrisons, only those ex-soldiers who were in the first year of their first-reserve service were summoned to cover the shortage. But the actual conditions on the Asiatic Continent are now such that a considerable number of soldiers must be stationed in different districts, and the number of ex-service men resident on the Continent is relatively small. It is considered that a time may come when the armies on the Continent supplemented only with recruits from the first-reserve service men in their first year of service will be altogether insufficient for garrisons or for other military purposes. To eliminate this danger, the new provisions empower the Army to call out when necessary all men in the first reserve list, regardless of the year of service they are in.

4. Conscripts may be found non-effective at the time of medical examination on their entrance to the barracks to which they are assigned, as a result of suffering disease or accident in the interval between enrolment and the actual call to service. According to the old provisions, these men were exempted from service altogether. The revised provisions prescribe that "They shall be called to active service at a later date or year, or may be exempted from it." The proper application of this provision is left to the judgment of competent authorities.

Abrogation of the Short-term Service System

The short-term service system for teachers in elementary schools is peculiar to Japanese conscription. The reason for the survival of this system through all former revisions in the military service law may be found in the fact that the Government was anxious not to weaken the teaching force in elementary schools in view of the paramount importance of national education by the absence of teachers from their duties even for purposes of national defence. The short-term system allowed these teachers to remain only five months in active service and this period was devoted to making them acquire a knowledge of military affairs so that they could accomplish their duty as educators of the people both in scientific and military sub-

jects. The system worked well as a result of the complete understanding between the military and educational authorities.

But times have changed and the five-month service is now all too short to provide teachers with a comprehensive knowledge of military affairs to the extent that they may give proper instructions on military subjects in their schools. Simultaneously, their influence on pupils and communities will be greatly increased with a knowledge of military affairs acquired by entering the full service with other members of the nation or by going to the front when so destined. Under such considerations, the short-term service system has been abrogated entirely, although investigations are being made by competent authorities not to cause any material harm to the education of the younger generation by this sudden change.

Hitherto, those entitled to the short-term service entered the service without drawing lots or passing the conscription medical examination. Now, they are handled in the same manner as all other young men as regards physical standards and methods of selection. The number of conscripts taken from among elementary school teachers may be comparatively small. It is undeniable that the number of those who are thus taken will not be so large as might be expected because of the change in the regulations for conscripts taken from other sources whereby these will be unproportionately increased in the near future, while a large number of men in the reserve service may be trained in peace-time. Once taken into the defence services, these teacher-soldiers and -sailors will not only be trained much more thoroughly in military affairs than in the past but also many of them will be chosen as cadets, with the result that they will gain the military point of view and when they are released from active service they will achieve greater distinction in the eyes of their pupils in elementary schools and may accordingly achieve brilliant success in their chosen field.

Revisions in Postponement of Student Conscription

The strength of an army is subject to the amount of mental vigour and physical strength of its soldiers. Both of these qualities are, as a rule, the possessions of young men with life before them. Therefore, conscripts should be chosen before they advance over the fixed age of twenty. But the medical examination and enrolment of students who reach the age of twenty has been postponed for as many years as they pursue their studies in schools and consequently many are much older than other young men at the time of their examination and enrolment, whereas their earlier enrolment is

desirable since most of them may become important constituents of the army as reserve or non-commissioned officers.

The revised system, therefore, places a certain limit to the term of postponement, shortening it by an extent that will not deter their studies in schools, yet that will amend the irrationality which formerly arose by the application of rules under which they were conscripted according to certain fixed ages, regardless of the month of their birth or the number of years they needed to complete their respective studies. A comparison of the new and old regulations concerning the maximum years of age up to which conscription is postponed follows :

OLD SYSTEM

Students in :	Maximum Year of Age (at which they are sub- jected to examination)
Middle Schools	22
Higher Schools, Middle-school Departments	
Business Schools (Middle-school Grade)	
Normal Schools	25
Higher Schools, College Departments and Special Courses	
Universities, Preparatory Departments	
Colleges of Three or Four Years	
Higher Normal Schools (Post-graduate Course omitted)	
Temporary Institutes for Training Business Schools or Young People's Teachers' Schools	27
Colleges of Five Years or More	
Higher Normal Schools, Post-graduate Courses	
Universities	

NEW SYSTEM

Students in :	Maximum Year of Age (up to which conscription may be postponed)	
	Those who were born	
	Before or on April 1	On or after April 2
Middle Schools	—	21
Higher Schools, Middle-school Department		
Business Schools (Middle-School Grade)		
Normal Schools	22	23
Higher Schools, College Departments		
Universities, Preparatory Departments		
Institutes for Training Young People's School Teachers		
Temporary Institutes for Training Teachers		

Students in :	Maximum Year of Age (up to which conscription may be postponed) Those who were born	
	Before or on April 1	On or after April 2
Institutes for Training	23	24
Business School Teachers		
Higher Schools, Special Courses		
Colleges of Three or Four Years		
Higher Normal Schools (Post-graduate Course Omitted)	24	25
Colleges of Five Years or More		
Higher Normal Schools, Post-graduate Courses		
Universities (Medical Department Omitted)		
Universities, Medical Department	25	26

Furthermore, a new provision is added to the new system according to which all students in the above-mentioned schools may be conscripted in time of emergency even before the expiration of the term of postponement so that they may take part in the defence of their country.

These new rules will come into force from December 1, 1939. Those who are in schools on that day shall remain under the old rules so as not to interfere with their course of study.

Extension of Privilege of Postponement of Conscription to Japanese Students Abroad

Japan is eager to assist Manchoukuo in her efforts to develop her national life and to give her all aid in such matters as educational enterprises which are most important in the mutual development of the two countries. Thus, the Japanese Government has extended the application of the system for the postponement of conscription for students to Japanese subjects studying in the government schools of Manchoukuo whose grades of study and school status are analogous to the above-mentioned schools in Japan.

* * *

Both Houses of the Imperial Diet passed this new conscription law without amendment at the 74th session held during the early months of 1939. The rationality and necessity of the revisions were fully appreciated. Similar appreciation and support is anticipated from all members of the nation when the revised Military Service Law comes into force.

THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER POLICY IN OPERATION

THE ELECTRICITY BOARD

A detailed exposition of the national electric power policy was presented in the No. 7 (January 1938) number of TOKYO GAZETTE. On April 5th of that year, the Electric Power Control Law and a few relative laws were enacted. With the ordinance promulgating the Organization of the Electricity Board on April 1, 1939, the Japan Electricity Generating and Transmitting Company came into existence with a capital amounting to 730 million yen. The old Electricity Bureau, which long served as the central organization for the Government's electricity administration, and the Electric Power Preparatory Control Bureau have gone out of existence with the creation of the Electricity Board.

The Electricity Board

Article I of the Electric Power Control Law provides that the Government shall control the generation and distribution of electricity. This function is in the hands of the Minister of Communications and the administrative office in charge of control is the Electricity Board, which attends, in addition, to the affairs formerly looked after by the former Electricity Bureau. The Electricity Board is thus under the direction of the Minister of Communications and undertakes the control of electric power, the supervision, regulation and inspection of electric enterprises, and the supervision of the generation of hydro-electricity. The Board is composed of the President's secretariat and the first and second divisions, of which the first division has charge chiefly of matters relating to the distribution and consumption of electric power while the second division deals with matters relating to State control of the production of electric power. Each of the divisions is subdivided into several sections.

The Japan Electricity Generation and Transmitting Company

The major portion of the capital of this company is in the form of the 630 million yen's worth of plants and equipment contributed by the existing electric enterprises. The company is expected to

establish such plants for the generation and transmission of electricity as the Government may require, having regard to the rapidly increasing demands at home for electric power. In the prospectus prepared on the occasion of marketing its shares, the company states that some 640 million yen will be needed in the next five years for the purpose of setting up adequate plants.

The authority to decide upon the plants to be established or extended, and upon plans for the distribution of electric power and the rates to be charged rests with the Government.

Of the management of the company, the president and vice-president are appointed by the Government with Imperial sanction, and the directors, not less than five in number, are appointed by the Government from among the candidates chosen by a general meeting of shareholders, while not less than three auditors are elected by the shareholders at a general meeting.

The company has five divisions : general affairs, business, finance, engineering and construction, each of which is headed by a director. There is a branch office at Osaka and sub-branches at Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Nagoya and at a few other places.

On April 1, 1939, the members of the Board of Directors were appointed and the arrangements with other companies involving the taking-over of staffs and employees and the transfer of assets and equipment were completed. The important contract in respect of the taking-over of electric power amounting to 2,200,000 kilowatts from fifty-two companies and of the supply of 3,400,000 kilowatts of electric power to seventy companies has been executed smoothly.

The company enjoys no privilege in the way of exemption from taxes but the debentures it issues have the guarantee of the Government, so that the company will have no difficulties in matters of finance.

Thus, the establishment of the Japan Electricity Generation and Transmission Company marks the beginning of State control of electric power in Japan.

CURRENT LABOUR MEASURES

DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE

UNDER the prevailing international situation and in keeping with the new situation arising in East Asia consequent upon the outbreak of the China Affair, various industries connected with national defence and other national necessities have made great progress. In these industries, the demand for labour has naturally increased rapidly. Surplus labour in general seems to have been almost completely exhausted and various circles are beginning to complain of labour shortages.

Restricting Labour Changes and Training Technicians

Hence, labour must be employed to its best advantage along the lines of national policy through a comprehensive use of surplus labour and appropriate distribution of workers in order to cope with shortages. At present, we find that shortages in labour are causing competition in employing workers or are inducing workers to change employment, the result being that unnecessary movements of workers have been occasioned. In view of these circumstances, a need has been seen of imposing certain restrictions on the movements of workers with the two-fold object of preventing unnecessary shifting of workers from one occupation to another and helping distribute labour equitably and properly.

The present shortage in labour is particularly pronounced among technicians and skilled workers. These technicians and skilled workers cannot be supplied readily at short notice. The only way to supply these types of labour sufficiently is to develop them by means of education and training so as to meet requirements. For this purpose, their training should be carried on after enlarging the facilities of the existing schools and other training institutions and also after newly providing for more of such facilities. These measures, however, will not be sufficient to meet the growing demand especially for skilled workers, and it is considered advisable for factories and other industrial institutions to provide for such training to meet their own requirements.

It may be pointed out that many factories and other industrial institutions are already carrying on the training of skilled labour, which, however, is not necessarily being given properly nor does it

adequately develop such skilled labour as is needed for the purpose of enlarging the productive power of the nation at large, if such training is left solely to the discretion of the factories and other industrial institutions concerned. The training of skilled labour as is undertaken by factories and other industrial institutions must be given systematically according to certain plans, with the actual shortage found in skilled labour and the volume of skilled labour to be needed for the future enlargement of productivity taken into due consideration. In other words, it has been considered necessary to formulate a system of compulsory training of skilled labour to be carried on by factories and other industrial institutions.

For these reasons, the National General Mobilization Council, at its second plenary session held on October 31, 1938, passed a Summary Draft of an Imperial Ordinance Concerning the Training of Technicians at Factories and Other Industrial Institutions. The council followed up this action with the adoption of a Summary Draft of an Imperial Ordinance Restricting Employment of Operatives at its third plenary session held on December 5, 1938. Necessary steps have since been taken to promulgate these projected Imperial Ordinances.

Restrictions to be Imposed on Employment of Workers

The restrictions thus stipulated for imposition upon the employment of workers are summarized below. In the first place, the scope of workers on whose employment the said restrictions are to be imposed covers the following four categories :

- (1) Men between 16 and 50 years of age who are at the present moment employed and have been employed for more than three months in occupations designated by the Minister of Welfare.

These age limits are the same as the ones for those who are required to file declarations under the provisions of the Ordinance for Declaration of Vocational Abilities, while the occupations so designated by the Minister of Welfare number 93 which are also included in the total of 134 kinds of occupations specified under the Ordinance for Declaration of Vocational Abilities. The 93 different kinds of occupations thus designated include such divisions of mining, metal-work and machine-tool industries as are most seriously in need of skilled labour as well as other occupations such as electric engineering, electric communications, aircraft engineering, shipbuilding engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering,

woodwork engineering, gun-powder manufacturing, electric battery manufacturing, special glass manufacturing, optical glass manufacturing, boiler engineering, rigging manufacturing, etc.

(2) Men between 16 and 50 years of age who, after having been engaged for more than three months in the employment of others for the occupations designated by the Minister of Welfare as mentioned in (1), have terminated such employment after the enforcement of the Imperial Ordinance concerned, provided that such termination of employment occurred less than one year ago in the cases of the graduates of the schools designated by the Minister of Welfare and less than six months ago in the cases of others.

Workers in this category have been included in the cases of labour subject to restrictions on their employment, because undue competition in employing workers or in inducing them to change employment cannot be expected to be prevented effectively unless not only those in actual employment but also those who have until recently been in employment are made subject to the restrictions in question. As regards the periods during which the former employees are made subject to the said restrictions, certain school graduates are distinguished from others, the scope of such school graduates being approximately the same as that of school graduates who are subject to restrictions under the Ordinance for Restricting Employment of School Graduates, which was put into force some time ago under the stipulations of Article 6 of the National General Mobilization Law. Mention must be made, however, of the inclusion in the case under review of the graduates of several schools giving instruction in evening classes, whereas these types of school graduates are excluded in the case of the Ordinance for Restricting Employment of School Graduates.

(3) Those who are at the present moment undergoing training as apprentices under the provisions of the Ordinance for the Training of Technicians at Factories and Other Industrial Institutions, provided that their apprenticeship has lasted for more than three months.

Of those coming under this stipulation, those who are over 16 years of age and are engaged in any of the 93 varieties of work designated by the Minister of Welfare are of course subject to restrictions under the provisions of (1). The other apprentices who are being trained at factories and other industrial institutions under compulsory provisions of the Ordinance for Training Technicians

at Factories and Other Industrial Institutions are made subject to restrictions as stipulated here in case they change occupations.

(4) Those who ceased to be apprentices less than six months ago after having been trained as such consecutively for more than three months under the provisions of the Ordinance Pertaining to Training of Technicians at Factories and Other Industrial Institutions.

Restrictions to be imposed on the workers of the four above-mentioned categories are to be made effective when a factory or industrial institution is going to employ workers of the said categories, as the prospective employer is required to obtain permission irrespective of the kinds of work for which his workers are to be employed in case he is employing them in his factory or other industrial institution. In case any employer is going to employ these workers in places other than his factory or industrial institution, he is required to obtain permission provided that the work for which these employers are to be employed falls within the scope of the 93 kinds of occupations specified by the Minister of Welfare. However, in case consent has been obtained from the employers who are employing these workers in the kinds of work specified by the Minister or who are training them as apprentices, the permission stipulated above can be dispensed with in newly employing these workers. Similarly, in case consent has been obtained from the former employers of the workers who have ceased to be their employees after having engaged in any of the occupations specified by the Minister, such workers may be newly employed without the permission stipulated above. In these cases, however, the new employer is required to file a report of the employment of these workers, accompanied by a certificate showing that their former employers have no objection to their new employment.

Applications for the permission stipulated above are required to be prepared in a fixed form and filed with the director of the Government Employment Bureau under whose jurisdiction the factory or industrial institution where the prospective employees have been employed or trained as apprentices is located. In case the factory or industrial institution where these workers are to be employed is under the jurisdiction of the same Government Employment Bureau as the factory or industrial institution where the said workers have previously been employed or trained, it is obvious that the application for the desired permission need not be passed through any other authorities. In case, however, the factory, industrial institution or business office where the workers are to be

employed is located in Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the South Sea Mandated Islands, or any foreign country such as Manchoukuo, North China, Central China, etc., the application will have to be filed directly with the director of the Bureau under whose jurisdiction the said workers have hitherto been placed.

An application for such permission can be cancelled when any falsehood has been reported. When the application contains untrue statements or when the application is accompanied by irregularities, the permission which might have been given in response to the said application will be cancelled.

Further, there have been stipulated provisions for inspections and examinations in order to obtain materials for reference before deciding between permission and non-permission, or in order to see whether the employment has been completed properly after having obtained necessary permission, or in order to find out whether or not there have been irregularities committed in connection with the employment of workers who have been found to require no permission for their employment. Thus, in case one who has obtained necessary permission has employed workers subject to these restrictions, or in case one has employed such workers without permission, one is required to report such employment to the director of the Government Employment Bureau under whose jurisdiction the concern is located according to a specified form. In case the director of the Bureau deems it necessary in connection with the permission to be given for the projected employment, he is authorized to collect reports from persons interested or send officials in charge to the place of business to inspect the conditions of operation, books or other documents.

In case places of industrial operation of the army and navy, other government-operated works, government offices or prefectural governments employ workers subject to restrictions under review, it is deemed inappropriate to make the procedures for obtaining permission applicable to such cases. Therefore, employment of workers in such cases is exempted from the application of the Ordinance for Restricting Employment of Workers.

Compulsory Training of Technicians at Factories

The factories and other industrial institutions which are carrying on operations specified by the Minister of Welfare are obliged to train technicians under the provisions of the relative Ordinance, provided that they have more than 200 male workers older than 16 years in their regular employ or that they are engaged in those kinds of work

which are specially designated by the Minister of Welfare with less than 200 and more than 50 male workers older than 16 years in regular employ. However, owners of plants regularly employing more than 200 male workers may be exempted from the obligation to train apprentices with permission of the Minister in case it is extremely difficult for them to undertake such training. The industries specified by the Minister of Welfare for this purpose include five important metal-work industries and 17 leading industries manufacturing or repairing machinery and precision instruments. In case one factory or place of industrial operation is engaged in several kinds of work simultaneously, the said concern is to be regarded as coming under the designation of the Minister of Welfare if any of the different kinds of work falls within the scope of designation.

The industries specified for Article 2 of the Ordinance Pertaining to Training of Technicians at Factories and Other Places of Industrial Operation are: metal refining industries; metal rolling industries (exclusive of metal wire manufacturing industries and metal foil manufacturing industries); blacksmith industries; metal casting industries; metal welding industries; metal-work and woodwork machine-tool manufacturing industries (including steel foundry machine tools manufacturing industries); mining, dressing and refining machine-tool manufacturing industries; industries manufacturing guns, shells, mines and arms; motor-engine manufacturing industries (boilers and gas generators manufacturing industries included); motors and other electric machinery manufacturing industries; electric communications machinery manufacturing industries; chemical engineering machinery and equipment manufacturing industries; manufacturing industries for pumps, water pressure machines, gas compressors, blowers, valves and cocks; manufacturing industries for belt wheels, gears, axles and ball bearings; rails and vehicle manufacturing industries; aircraft manufacturing industries; automobile and bicycle manufacturing industries; crane manufacturing industries; measuring, testing and scientific instruments manufacturing industries; optical machinery and instruments manufacturing industries; and medical instruments manufacturing industries.

Whether or not any factory or place of industrial operation has more than 200 workers older than 16 years, or whether or not it has more than 50 such workers in employ is to be determined by the total number of workers employed in the place as a whole, and not by the number of workers employed in the specified industries alone. Further, the obligation to train technicians devolves upon

the factories or places of industrial operation, and therefore in case the management owns several factories or places of industrial operation, each of the latter places is to be considered as being under such obligation if it falls within the scope of the Ordinance in question.

The technicians are to be trained to qualify as "soldiers of industry" and to qualify intellectually and technically as technicians of more than medium standing, with technical knowledge enabling them to pass considerably extensive technical judgments on productive activities and carry on operations even when left to their own discretion. These technicians are further expected to produce from among themselves leaders for the future, and for this reason experts skilled only in their own divisions of work are not qualified for the said training.

The qualifications of apprentices for such training are stipulated below. In case any factory or place of industrial operation finds it difficult to enlist a required number of such apprentices or in case the nature of the kinds of technicians to be so trained makes it inappropriate to enlist only those who are qualified as specified, it has been stipulated that those who are not fully qualified may be trained as apprentices with permission of the prefectural governor concerned. The qualifications are as follows :

(1) Males over 14 and less than 16 years of age when they start the training.

(2) Those who have finished the two-year course of the higher primary schools or the ordinary course of the young men's schools, or those who have been declared to have scholastic ability equal to or higher than the above-mentioned standards by the Minister of Education.

It has been deemed desirable that those who are under obligation to train technicians should spend a certain period in preparing plans, enlisting required numbers of apprentices and providing for facilities of supervision on training before starting the training, instead of commencing such training immediately on the dates when they find themselves placed under obligation. Therefore, it has been stipulated in principle that those who are placed under such obligation between January 1 and the end of February should start the required training during the month of April in the same year and that those who are placed under such obligation between March 1 and the end of December should do so during the month of April in the following year. For the year 1939, however, those who find themselves under obligation on the day when the Ordinance Pertaining to Training of Technicians at Factories and Places of Industrial

Operation, are required to start such training once every year, commencing such training during the month of May in 1939.

Those who are under the obligation of training technicians are required to prepare plans for such training and obtain permission of the prefectural governors concerned. In the first place, these plans are required to include the statement of the kinds of apprentices for whom training is to be started and their number.

The number of apprentices to be trained is, in principle, to be more than the number to be obtained by multiplying the number of those who are required to file declarations under the system of the national registration of vocational abilities employed in the specified works (exclusive of engineers) by the percentage to be fixed by the Minister of Welfare (which is fixed as 4 per cent in the case of metal industries and 6 per cent in the case of machine-tool industries for the training to be started during 1939). For a factory or place of industrial operation regularly employing more than 1,000 male workers more than 16 years old and equipped with a practice shop or other facilities for training, it is stipulated that the said factory or place of industrial operation may be ordered to start the training of a certain number of apprentices to be fixed between the number corresponding to the fixed percentage and twice the said number. Further in case the number of the apprentices under training is found to be short of the required number at the end of any given year, the management is required to start training the required number plus the number of the shortage for the following year.

In case there exist special circumstances making it impossible for the required number of apprentices to start training according to the above-mentioned stipulations, the number of apprentices to be so trained may be cut with permission of the prefectural governor concerned.

The plans to be prepared are also required to indicate the methods by which the apprentices for training are to be selected and the number of trainers classified according to the different kinds of duties they are to assume. In case the prefectural governor concerned deems it particularly necessary, it is stipulated that he may order the appointment of such trainers as may be required.

The plans for which the permission of the prefectural governor are required are further to indicate the details of facilities of training such as classrooms, practice shops and dormitories. In this connection the governor is authorized to order the building of classrooms and their accessory facilities in the case of a concern regularly employing 200 or more male workers more than 16 years old or the building of a practice shop in the case of a concern regularly employing 1,000 or more male workers older than 16 years.

The other matters to be covered in the plans include the hours to be devoted to the cultivation of moral qualities in apprentices as divided according to their different classes, the different scholastic courses for the apprentices and the hours of instruction to be given.

The period for training apprentices is fixed at three years in principle, and in cases where apprentices are to be given technical training for more than one year at practice shops or where there exist special reasons warranting the shortening of the training period without lowering the standard of training, the said period of training may be cut to the limit of two years.

The hours of training are stipulated as follows :

- (a) More than 50 hours annually for spiritual training.
- (b) More than 700 hours for the scholastic curriculum throughout the period of training.

The management may cut the hours to the limit of 550 hours with permission of the prefectural governor concerned in case special circumstances warrant such a cut.

- (c) More than 5,000 hours for practice during the entire period of training. In case necessary permission has been obtained to cut the period of training to less than three years, the hours of practice may be cut to more than 3,500 hours.

The plans to be submitted to the prefectural governor prior to the starting of training are also required to state the wages and other allowances to be paid to the apprentices during the period of training. As the management is required to employ the apprentices after their training, it goes without saying that it is required to pay wages to the apprentices during the period of their training.

The hours of work per diem (including hours for training) are also to be specified in the plans to be submitted to the prefectural governor. In case the hours of work are subject to restrictions under other laws or ordinances, the training of apprentices is required to be carried on within such restrictions on working hours.

Holidays and hours for rest, as well as the estimates of expenses needed for the training, also have to be covered in the plans in question, it being stipulated that the burden of expenses for training should not be shared by the apprentices.

Further, in case the management, which in principle is required to train apprentices at its factory or other place of industrial operation, finds it difficult to do so for special reasons, it may train such apprentices at schools or other institutions equipped with facilities well adapted to their training or cause them to be so trained. In addition to the foregoing, a statement must also be made of the following matters concerning the schools or other institutions concerned.

- (1) The names and locations of the schools or institutions.
- (2) The kinds and numbers of apprentices to be trained.
- (3) The details of the courses to be given for the apprentices.
- (4) The period during which the apprentices are to be trained.

In case any employer desires to revise the plans of training apprentices on which permission has been obtained, he is required to obtain permission of the prefectural governor concerned on such revisions. The governor may also order the employer to revise his plans for training apprentices. In case there arise special circumstances, after the commencement of training, making it difficult to continue training any or all of the required number of apprentices, training may be discontinued for any number of apprentices with permission of the governor. In case any of the individual apprentices is considered to have no prospect of becoming a worker of more than medium standing, permission may be obtained to discontinue training of such an individual, in which case the required number of apprentices is to remain short.

It is stipulated further that reports may be collected or official visits or inspections may be made occasionally in order to maintain adequate supervision. To be more exact, the Minister of Welfare or the prefectural governor concerned is authorized to collect reports regarding the training of technicians or send officials in charge to factories, places of industrial operation, business offices or other places to inspect books and other documents concerning the training of apprentices. Moreover, the employers are, it is also stipulated, required to file reports to the prefectural governors concerned regarding the appointment of trainers and regarding other circumstances concerning the training.

CONCERNING NATIONAL SPIRITUAL MOBILIZATION

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT

THE movement for spiritual mobilization of the nation, started under the auspices of the Government in September, 1937, immediately following the development of the North China Incident into the China Affair, has served its purpose as the alignment of the entire nation for eliminating all forces destructive to the permanent peace of East Asia and for liberating constructive forces for establishing the New Order in that part of the world based on the collaboration of the three countries of Japan, China and Manchoukuo. The Japanese nation as a whole has come to understand the basic significance of the present Affair and the historic task that every Japanese is now called upon to perform—the task which, if not performed today, according to Prince Fumimaro Konoe, former Prime Minister, will have to be undertaken by future generations under far greater difficulties. However, with the development of a new phase of the Affair in which long-term activities for spiritual as well as material construction have to be carried out in the midst of the most complicated, strained international relations, further enlightenment on the essential nature of the current emergency and new emphasis in the policies and programme of this important movement have been felt by its leaders and the Government. Acting on the recommendation of the governing committee of the movement, therefore, the Government adopted on April 11th measures for strengthening and enlarging its activities on the new basis.

Following are the newly adopted basic policies of the movement.

Basic Policies

1. Purpose and Aims

The China Affair has now developed into the great task of constructing a New Order in East Asia, while the international situation is threatened with a serious future. As at no other time, the nation has been and will be called upon to be prepared for determined action.

When the present conflict with China broke out, all members of the nation were found ready to render wholehearted and grateful services to the State, establishing thereby the complete organization of national life on a wartime basis. In order to cope with the new

development in the situation, however, the movement for spiritual mobilization should further be strengthened and made into a practical campaign with the two phases of the spiritual and material life coordinated in perfect unity.

The necessity facing the Japanese nation today is to augment the entire national strength by combining all its traditional, spiritual forces for the purpose of achieving the task of constructing a new East Asia in accordance with the spirit and ideal on which the Empire was founded, and for that of overcoming the world-wide crisis in international relations.

2. Major Points

(1) Construction of a new order in East Asia shall be effected by upholding national ideals.

(2) The total strength of the nation shall be augmented and given full scope by exalting the national spirit.

(3) The entire people shall render wholehearted services to the State by working hard in their respective occupations.

3. Precautions in Enforcement

(1) The real conditions under the prevailing situation shall be clarified, in order to enable the people to realize its world significance. Endeavours shall be made to consolidate spiritual unity among them as Japanese subjects and make them prepared to shoulder responsibilities as the builders of a new East Asia. The moral life shall be cultivated and promoted.

(2) Endeavours shall be made to render positive cooperation in line with national economic policies such as augmentation of productive power, mobilization of materials and adjustment of commodity prices. In particular, endeavours shall be devoted to the utilization of materials, economy in consumption, promotion of savings, encouragement of more work and improvement of physical strength. These principles should be applied to the daily life of the people, whatever their occupation may be.

(3) Home-front activities shall be promoted with developments in the situation in China.

4. Special Features in Enforcement

(1) Full cooperation between the Government and the people shall be effected, with a view to making the campaign a free national movement.

(2) Various Government offices should take the lead in effecting such cooperation and should always embody the aims of this movement in their administrations.

(3) Various private organizations should keep in close touch with one another, with the Central League for National Spiritual Mobilization as their centre, so as to be able to function to best advantage. Economic organizations, in particular, should take pains to lead their members to carry out their duties in such a way as to render adequate the progress of the movement.

(4) All official and private leaders should take initiative in practising the aims of the projected campaign.

(5) The youth who are to form the backbone of the nation during the next generation and the women who play an important rôle in the home should rise to the call of the times with full cooperation.

(6) In daily life, practice and training shall be held to be of primary importance. Campaign weeks and other plans under competent control should be sponsored.

(7) In the light of previous experiences, special attention should be paid to urban areas where those connected with prospering industries should be called upon to exercise stricter self-discipline and self-control.

(8) In carrying out this movement, attention should be concentrated on some specific points according to the requirements of each locality and objectives concerned, after making due preliminary investigations. In various circles, concrete objectives for realization during the coming year should be made public so as to concentrate all efforts on them in commemoration of the forthcoming 2600th anniversary of the founding of the Empire.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

I

—THE CHINESE “APRIL OFFENSIVE” IS DEFEATED—

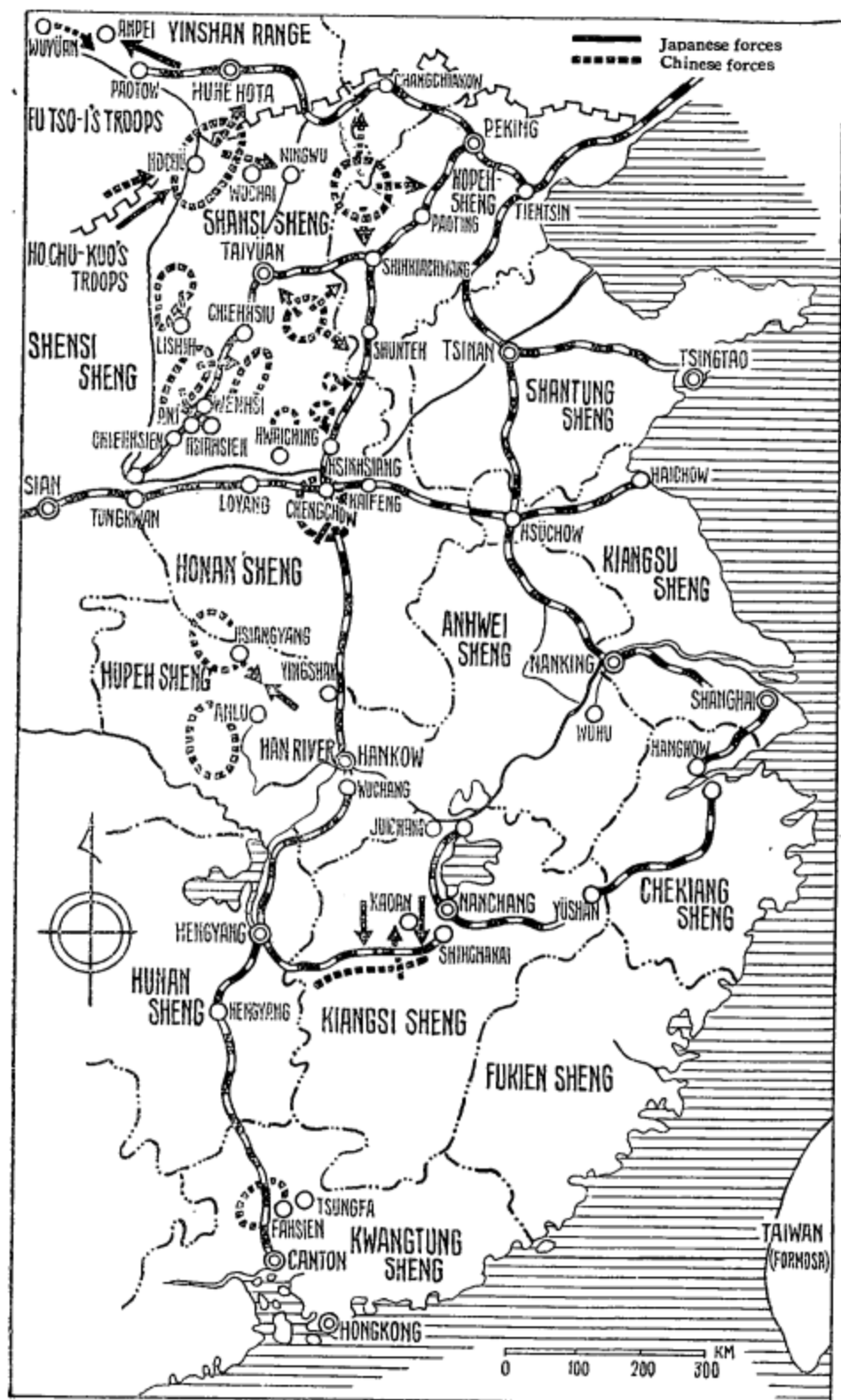
BUREAU OF INFORMATION, WAR DEPARTMENT

PERSISTENT rumours were spread in Hongkong as early as February to the effect that the war situation might develop in favour of China in April. With the fall of the three Wuhan cities, the situation in China had developed unfavourably for the Kuomintang Government, both militarily and in general. Wang Ching-wei, vice-president of the Party, left Chungking for Hanoi in Indo-China, where he boldly started a campaign for peace, urging the Kuomintang leaders to enter into negotiations with Japan on the basis of a statement issued by Prince Konoye, then Prime Minister.

Another campaign for peace was launched by Marshal Wu Pei-fu. During March, the new régimes in Peking and Nanking gained considerable strength. And to all this was added the alienation of the masses from the Kuomintang Government, especially in Chungking in Szechuan Province, and the weakening of the Chinese armies. Thus, internally, the Kuomintang Government had to map out some plan to capture popular imagination and to galvanise into action the troops which had shown manifest signs of losing enthusiasm in the protracted warfare. Externally, it was under obligation to the Soviet Union, Great Britain and France, which had extended it assistance, to demonstrate the “high morale and prestige” of the Chinese armies.

The Kuomintang Government seems to have expected a great deal from the fishery negotiations between Japan and the Soviet Union, which it hoped might be broken off in April, but which were brought to an amicable conclusion in time for the fishing season.

With these factors in the background, the Chinese “April offensive” was planned by the Soviet military advisers to the Kuomintang Government, Chou En-lai, leader of the Chinese Communist Party, and the “Christian General,” Feng Yu-hsiang, in Chungking early in February, according to reliable information reaching Tokyo. In spite of strong opposition voiced by some Chinese military leaders, an organized press campaign was started by the Kuomin-



Map of China

showing troop movements and positions during the "April Offensive"

tang, heralding the inauguration of the "April offensive" throughout the world.

The Chinese plan was a very ambitious one, extending from Suiyüan in the north to Canton in the south. Part of its failure was caused by renewed Japanese attacks on strategic Chinese positions, launched as early as February, forestalling possible Chinese moves.

The Situation on Various Fronts

Thwarting the Chinese plans, the Japanese forces in China decided to take the offensive on all fronts, including Inner Mongolia, Shansi, Hupeh, Nanchang, Tsungfa and Fahsien in February and March. The Japanese paid major attention to the so-called 9th War Zone between Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, and Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, where the Chinese military authorities had been planning a large-scale offensive. They shattered the Chinese attempts, by capturing Nanchang and other important points in central Kiangsi Province.

Chinese guerillas under Shih Pao-shan and Ma Lai-jen, the Second Route Army under Men Ping-yo and troops under Kuo Hsi-peng, all affiliated with General Fu Tso-i, had been planning to recapture the Peking-Suiyüan Railway, whose western terminus is Paotow in Suiyüan Province. Stealing a march on the enemy, the Japanese forces in Suiyüan Province on February 10th started operations and successfully stormed Anpeh, 80 kilometres northwest of Paotow, after negotiating the Yinshan mountain range at 5 p.m., February 11th. Thus completely frustrating the Chinese attempts to recapture Paotow, the Japanese forces began extending their activities over the plain of Inner Mongolia.

In northern Shansi Province, Chinese troops belonging to Generals Ho Chu-kuo and Chao Cheng-shou were planning to invade Ningwu from Hoku at the northwestern extremity of the province where the Great Wall crosses the Yellow River, but the Ohta detachment on February 10th captured Wuchai, halfway between Hoku and Ningwu and frustrated the Chinese attempts.

In southern Shansi Province, the Chinese forces took the offensive along the entire front from midnight, February 9th to the morning of February 10th, though not in a unified and coordinated way. At 3 a.m., February 10th, some 600 Chinese Soldiers belonging to the 177th division attacked Erhsihliling, south of Chiehhsien at the southwestern extremity of Shansi Province, but were repulsed by the Fujimuro detachment. At 2:40 the same morning, some 500

soldiers of the 104th division attacked Siah sien, but were driven back by the Japanese garrison force. At 4 o'clock the same morning, Chinese troops of the 177th division attacked Changtsun, south of Yuncheng, but were repelled by the Japanese garrison. About 150 Chinese troops attacked Tuantsun, 8 kilometres east of Anyi simultaneously, but were repulsed by the Iwakiri detachment.

Chinese troops in groups from 100 to 400 attacked Changtienchen and Howwangtsun, 20 kilometres south of Anyi; Weikuochen and Hsialiutsun North of Siah sien; and a district near Wensi, but were all driven back.

In northern Honan Province, some Chinese troops unsuccessfully attacked the railway near Hwaiking. About 1,000 Chinese attacked Kaifeng, capital of Honan Province, on the morning of February 12th, armed with trench-mortars, light machine-guns and rifles, but the Japanese garrison succeeded in routing them to the west, after several hours' fighting.

In the region east of the Han River in northern Hupeh Province, the Japanese forces started offensive operations late in February. To meet this campaign, General Chiang Kai-shek on February 22nd ordered General Li Tsung-jen at Siangyang on the Han River to outflank the Japanese right wing from the Tahung mountain range. Consequently, the Chinese troops under Li Tsung-jen began moving southeast.

Since April 7th, the Japanese have kept up their offensive in the mountainous region west of Haokiatien, which stands 20 kilometres northwest of Yingshan. On April 12th they succeeded in breaking the Chinese resistance. They also repulsed the Chinese troops which invaded the district northeast of Anlu in the evening of April 10th.

After the reduction of Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, and also Wuning, another important town in the province, the Japanese forces operating in the front south of the Yangtze River kept up their southern drive and occupied Shihchakai and Kaoan south and west of Nanchang respectively on the morning of April 11th, thus destroying the Chinese defence line between Nanchang and Changsha.

In South China, a major campaign was started by the Japanese forces against the Chinese troops north of Canton with the close of the wet season. The Japanese first column on April 6th crossed the Liuki River and dislodged the Chinese troops from their positions at Maoshan, by advancing west of Tsungfa the same evening. This column also took Lienhuhu the same evening, thus

cutting off the Chinese retreat. The second column also crossed the Liuki River, closely following the first one and reached Mitzesan the same evening, after dispersing the Chinese troops in the mountainous region northwest of Tapingcheng on the way. Part of this column engaged a large force of Chinese troops east of Szechuanshih. Thus in South China, too, the Chinese forces have been forestalled and have since failed to display any activity.

The Chinese air force which suffered so heavily from Japanese attacks did its bit in the "April offensive." Seven Chinese planes on April 11th raided Yusiang at the southwestern extremity of Shansi Province and dropped bombs, but the Japanese sustained no damage. Rumour was persistent for some time that the Chinese air force was planning a raid on Japan, but the rumour was false. On the contrary, the Chinese air base at Yushan in Kiangsi Province was raided and destroyed by Japanese military and naval planes.

* * *

A survey of the results of the Chinese "April offensive" shows that General Chiang Kai-shek and his lieutenants have not been tenacious of purpose, while the bulk of the Chinese troops which undertook the offensive were provincial troops, not the so-called central armies under the direct control of Chiang. To make matters worse, the warlords of the provincial troops were more keen on preserving their military strength than conducting an offensive against the Japanese in dead earnest. Hence a mere apology for an offensive made by the warlords who managed to keep their forces intact as much as possible and sent a fraction of their troops to the field only for the purpose of reporting to their superior officers.

No wonder that the Chinese "April offensive," so noisily heralded, ended in failure only to demonstrate the weakness of the Kuomintang Government both at home and abroad and to hasten its downfall, by courting further damage.

In the engagements, the Japanese forces in North, Central and South China engaged the Chinese troops with an aggregate military strength of 259,800. The total number of major engagements was 414, while the Chinese forces left 45,700 dead. Japanese casualties were negligible. The Japanese booty included large quantities of arms and ammunition which have not yet been classified.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

II

—ACTIVITIES OF THE IMPERIAL NAVAL FORCES—

PUBLICITY BUREAU, NAVY DEPARTMENT

Progress of the Hainan Campaign

THE campaign in Hainan Island made such satisfactory progress that the entire island was placed under Japanese domination by the end of April. Close cooperation and coordination between the Japanese military and naval forces resulted in Japanese occupation of a large number of important Chinese military points on the island, while Japanese landing parties landed at key points along the coast in face of the Chinese troops and secured various important sea-ports.

On April 16th, a Japanese landing party, covered by warships and aeroplanes, effected a landing at Poao on the eastern coast of Hainan Island in face of the Chinese force and occupied the port. Pushing inland, the party entered Lokwei (Lohui), where it effected a junction with a Japanese military force which had been driving south. Both Japanese forces immediately started a clean-up campaign against the remnants of Chinese troops in and round Lokwei. The same day, another landing party, covered by warships and aeroplanes and in close cooperation with a military force, successfully landed at Yangpu on the western coast of Hainan Island and occupied the port town at about 11 o'clock in the morning.

A joint attack was started by military and naval forces on Tanhsien in the northwestern part of the island early in the morning of April 17th. At 10 o'clock the same morning, Tanhsien, the capital of the prefecture of the same name, fell into Japanese hands. A party of blue-jackets entered the town of Sinying in order to follow up the victory. Thus Japanese forces occupied Tanhsien, Kachek and Lokwei, where the Chinese forces had set up their bases of operations to disturb peace and order in Hainan Island. The same day, the Japanese landing party made a surprise attack on Tengkiu (Tengchiao), a strategically important town in the southern part of the island and occupied it, after dislodging some 400 Chinese regulars.

Naval Operations in Inland Waters

On March 18th, a Japanese naval force began operations on Lake Poyang to participate in the fresh campaign started in the region west of the lake. This naval force, led by a mine-sweeper unit, sailed south along the western shore of the lake. Successfully pushing through the mine-fields, it sailed up the lower reaches of the Siu River and reached Yehkiatsi the same afternoon. Meanwhile, those warships which were anchored off Wucheng at the mouth of the Siu River opened a bombardment on Wucheng. The Chinese troops made stubborn resistance to hold Wucheng with the result that fierce fighting developed round the city for several days. Covered by warships, a Japanese landing party effected a landing near Wucheng and immediately occupied Lingkungchow, northeast of it. In concert with the Japanese military force which had also successfully landed at another point near Wucheng, the landing party engaged several thousand Chinese troops on the eastern bank of the Kan River in bitter fighting which lasted several days. The landing party, in cooperation with the military force, succeeded in entering Wucheng in the afternoon of March 23rd and immediately started to clean up the remnants of Chinese troops in the town. The following morning a junction between the landing-party and military force was effected at Wucheng, which was thus completely occupied. The Chinese forces left 80 dead in the Wucheng sector, while the Japanese booty included 10 mines, a large number of rifles and a large quantity of ammunition.

A further push up the Siu River was made by the warships, after removing booms and sweeping mines. On March 26th, the warships reached Hsukiafow. The following morning, another naval force which sailed up the Kan River reached Sanchowtow, removing booms and sweeping mines on the way. Meanwhile, the landing party in concert with the naval force advanced to a point south of Antanghu, by clearing the enemy force from the right bank of the Kan River.

On March 28th, the landing party broke through the enemy position at Pehkangshan and pressed the enemy southward. The same afternoon, the party occupied Changyi and its surrounding district. The Japanese warships on Lake Poyang suppressed remnants of Chinese troops on the shores of the lake and made further progress in the operations of removing booms and sweeping mines on March 30th. The naval force which had been engaged on the Kan River between Wucheng, its mouth, and Nanchang,

capital of Kiangsu Province, since the middle of March met with various difficulties in the form of strongly-built booms at several points and stubborn resistance offered by the remnants of Chinese troops on both banks of the river, but succeeded in entering Nanchang at 2 : 30 p.m., April 3rd.

Simultaneously, a Japanese naval force on the upper reaches of the Yangtze River had started a clean-up campaign against the Chinese military craft on Lake Tungting on March 15th and sank some 20 enemy vessels in the northern part of the lake in addition to another 6, which were captured.

An unfortunate incident occurred on the Whampoo River at 3 : 28 p.m., March 18th when the Juiho, a steamer of Jardine Matheson & Co., scraped against the Japanese warship Izumo, which sustained damage in her hull and armament.

On March 19th, a Japanese naval unit which was patrolling off Chekiang Province bombarded the Chenhai Fort in the suburbs of Ningpo between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Hungyuan, Chanchiaotsui and Paichishan forts were also bombarded and damaged.

Activities of the Landing Parties in North China

Following the successful conclusion of the campaign in northern Kiangsu Province which resulted in the fall of Haichow, the eastern terminus of the Lung-Hai Railway, the remnants of Chinese troops have been eliminated from northern Kiangsu Province and Shantung Province.

The Japanese landing party at Weihaiwei in cooperation with the security police dispersed some 500 Chinese troops at Wenteng at the eastern extremity of Shantung Peninsula. The following day the landing party entered Wenteng and the same evening returned to Weihaiwei.

On March 14th, the landing party at Lienyunchiang, the terminus port of the Lung-Hai Railway attacked the remnants of Chinese troops round Lienyunchiang and dispersed them. The Chinese left 16 rifles, 500 cartridges and 12 mines.

On March 15th, this landing party, accompanied by 200 security policemen, dispersed the remnants of Chinese troops near Chefoo. It advanced to Muping. On April 17th, the landing party, accompanied by 40 security policemen, routed remnants of Chinese troops from Chiyunshan on the southern slope of Pehyuntai.

Japanese landing parties have also been active at key points on the Yangtze River in Central China. On April 13th, a party, covered by warships and in cooperation with a military force,

liquidated some 150 Chinese regulars at Pochengchen, which it occupied.

Clean-up campaigns are being carried on in various parts of South China. On March 9th, a landing party belonging to the Japanese naval force on the Pearl River landed on French island, capturing 15 rifles and several hundred rounds of ammunition. The same night, a clean-up campaign was started against the Chinese military craft on Chukiang Bay. On March 10th, several Chinese military junks were captured off Heungchow (Siangchow) together with large quantities of arms and ammunition.

On March 11th, the landing party, which had been operating in the southern part of Hainan Island, advanced to Lolo, west of Aih sien via Chiuso. On March 17th, the party made a further push and occupied Tengchiao where it seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

The naval force on the Pearl River, in cooperation with the military forces which started an attack on Jungki on the delta, escorted them and covered their landing near Jungki on March 27th. After the successful landing of the military forces, the naval force in close touch with them cut off the retreat of the Chinese troops at Hsiaolan and Maning, southwest of Kweichow.

Another landing party belonging to the naval force on the Pearl River effected a landing at a point northwest of Tanchow in co-operation with the naval force on April 14th and occupied Tanchow Fort, by routing the Chinese troops on the way. In the engagement, the party captured two 12-centimetre guns, four 8-centimetre guns, one 40-millimetre gun and a large quantity of ammunition.

Taking advantage of a dense fog on the morning of April 21st, a large body of Chinese troops attacked Chinmen Island off Amoy, but was easily repulsed by the Japanese bluejackets who were stationed there.

Part of the naval force on the Pearl River started operations for removing booms and sweeping mines round Tachiaoko Island and near Tanchow, covered by naval aeroplanes, early in April. Up to April 20th, the naval force discovered and disposed of some 50 mines. The number of mines discovered and disposed of since the beginning of the Canton campaign has totalled about 500.

CONCERNING THE LATE AMBASSADOR SAITO

I

REMARKS OF CAPTAIN RICHMOND K. TURNER, U.S.N.,
IN RESPONSE TO THE SPEECH OF MR. HACHIRO
ARITA, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
TOKYO, April 19, 1939

MR. Foreign Minister, on my own account and on behalf of the officers present from the United States Ship Astoria, permit me to thank you for your hospitality, and even more to thank you for the kind sentiments which you have expressed.

It has been the Astoria's part to be the means for putting into concrete form the sincere American feeling of respect and friendship for the late Japanese Ambassador Saito, and you may be assured Americans deeply regret that Mr. Saito's untimely death has removed him from their national life.

I am very grateful, and the officers and men of the Astoria are grateful, for the opportunity of participating in my country's expression of admiration for this renowned Japanese statesman, and I am proud to have had my ship selected for the solemn mission of transporting his ashes home to their final resting place. We are also deeply sensible of the honor accorded us in being permitted to assist in the imposing and reverent funeral ceremonies for the late Ambassador held here in Tokyo yesterday.

We realize that the friendly words which you have addressed to us are directed primarily to the United States Government and the American people. We are fortunate in being here to represent them on this occasion, and it is in their name, therefore, that I accept your appreciation for the safe accomplishment of our mission, and it is in their name that I accept from the Imperial Japanese Government and the Japanese people the generous welcome given to us.

We have all been much impressed by the friendliness of our greeting by the Japanese people, and we are being quite overwhelmed by the hospitality for which that people are so famous.

Again I thank you, Mr. Foreign Minister, for your kindness, and through you I thank your people for the many courtesies which they have extended to us from the time of our arrival. The Astoria will have only a few days in port, regrettably, but none of her ship's company, neither those who have been here before nor those

on their first visit to Japan, will ever forget the cordiality of their reception in this charming and beautiful country.

II

RESPONSE OF MR. HACHIRO ARITA, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, TO THE REMARKS OF CAPTAIN RICHMOND

K. TURNER, U.S.N., April 24, 1939

Captain Turner, officers of the Astoria, Your Excellency and gentlemen :

On behalf of the Government and people of Japan, I wish to express to Captain Turner our deep appreciation of his kind words and hospitality extended on the eve of the Astoria's departure from these shores.

Because your President's thoughtfulness towards the late Ambassador Saito has touched the heart of the Japanese people, and because Saito was so greatly loved by his fellow countrymen, the spontaneous and sincere gratitude felt towards the captain, officers, and men of the Astoria, who participated in the solemn mission across the Pacific, has been deep and universal throughout the country. It is this sense of gratitude shared by the whole Japanese people that charged us who are responsible for the reception programme, to make your stay in Japan as pleasant as possible. We wish you could stay longer, so that our sentiments could more properly be conveyed to you.

With the kind participation of the officers and men of the Astoria, we held a celebration at Shimoda Sunday last, commemorating the visit of Commodore Matthew Perry to Japan some 85 years ago. I am confident that the historic visit of the Astoria likewise will be ever remembered by the Japanese people as signifying another memorable chapter in the history of friendly relations between our two countries.

In closing, may I again thank Captain Turner for his welcome this evening and wish him and all the officers and men of the Astoria bon voyage. And with your kind permission I will propose a toast to the Government and people of the U. S. A.

III

ADDRESS OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, MR. JOSEPH
CLARK GREW, AT THE FUNERAL OF HIROSHI SAITO
AT THE HONGANJI, TOKYO, April 18, 1939

In the name of the President of the United States and of the American people I express to the Japanese nation profound con-

dolences in the death of Hiroshi Saito, late Ambassador of Japan to the United States. To the Ambassador's family, our hearts go out in warmest understanding and sympathy. Their sorrow and that of his Japanese comrades is deeply shared by his many friends in America where he gave the best that he had to give in the interests of Japanese-American friendship, and finally rendered the last noble service of devotion to that great cause, as a soldier lays down his life in line of duty.

In all his work in America he proceeded on the fundamental assumption that there is no irreconcilable divergence in the interests of our two nations, and without being in any minutest degree the less loyal to his Government or less effective in its service, he labored whole-heartedly to the end that his country and the America he had come to love should remain forever in concord. He intimately understood the country of his residence and felt a common bond of sympathy with his numberless American friends who highly appreciated and warmly reciprocated that friendship. Indeed, he knew our country in a sense that very few foreigners have ever come to know it. His frank and open manner, his sincerity, his keen sense of humor which lightened the darkest days, and his camaraderie endeared him to all and contributed to the effectiveness of his ambassadorship.

As a statesman, a cultured gentleman and a devoted patriot who served his country well, Hiroshi Saito's name will live in the annals of Japanese diplomacy as it will live in the hearts of the American people. It is with deepest personal sorrow that I lay before him the homage of my respectful admiration, my grateful appreciation of his cooperative and constructive work, and my grief at his untimely passing.

ORAL REPRESENTATION

MADE BY THE VICE-MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR.
RENZO SAWADA, TO THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN AM-
BASSADORS AT TOKYO REGARDING THE QUESTION OF
THE SETTLEMENT IN SHANGHAI, May 3, 1939

(a) The administrative structure and systems of the Settlement are defective in many respects rendering them wholly unsuitable to the present situation, including the Land Regulations, on which the administration of the Settlement is based. The provisions of the Land Regulations now in force, save on a few minor points, remain exactly the same as those of the Land Regulations of 1866. In other words, the Settlement is still governed by a set of basic regulations enacted seventy-three years ago when the Settlement was less than one-third of its present area, when foreigners residing there numbered no more than 2,200 and when there were only about 90,000 Chinese residents. Unquestionably the existing administrative structure and systems of the Settlement are in many respects inadequate to meet the new situation which has developed in the ensuing 70 odd years.

(b) To enable the Settlement to adapt itself to the actual conditions now obtaining and to discharge properly its functions, not a few improvements and innovations should be introduced into its administrative machinery and its operation. Several years ago the question of the reform of the Municipal Council was eagerly discussed in the Press of Shanghai. It was then pointed out that the system of election for the Municipal Council was undemocratic; that the British monopolized important offices in the Municipal Council, held an overwhelming majority in its other offices and tended to be oligarchical in administering its affairs. It was further asserted that administrative expenses were excessive, and therefore, a considerable retrenchment of expenditure was required in regard to the Volunteer Corps, the Orchestra and education, and in other respects; and that the budgetary expenditure of the Municipal Council, especially that relating to education, was not fairly distributed among the different national communities. All these assertions were generally justified.

(c) To make smooth the working of the administrative machinery of the Settlement, it is imperative that the structure of the Municipal Council should be remodelled with a view to meeting the requirements of the present day. It is also necessary that the nationals of all the countries interested should have a fair and just voice in the affairs of the Municipal Council. The voice of the Japanese community, despite the enormous Japanese interests there, is not given a due and fair expression in the administration of the Settlement. This is evident from the small number of the Japanese Councillors, from the position of Japanese officers in the Municipal Police Department, or from how Japanese officials stand in the other departments of general administration. A reasonable adjustment of the present conditions, which are so unfair and unsatisfactory, is

therefore, imperatively necessary.

(d) In considering the status and administration of the Settlement it should be borne in mind that a radical change has come over the general situation in China since the outbreak of the China Affair. Especially in Shanghai and its neighbourhood, the situation has completely changed. New régimes, distinct and separate from the Chiang Kai-shek régime, have come into existence and are functioning—the Special City Government in Shanghai and the Weihsin (new) Government in Central China. It is most desirable, therefore, that the Settlement authorities should closely cooperate with the Special City Government for the maintenance of peace and order, and for the safeguarding of general public welfare, in Shanghai and its vicinity. For that purpose some measures must be taken immediately. For instance, practical consideration should be given to the position of the Chinese Court of Justice existing within the Settlement; and the question of restitution of the old City Government's Land Registers held in custody by the Municipal Council must be speedily settled.

(e) The Japanese Government cannot pass unnoticed the rampancy of anti-Japanese elements or those elements hostile to the new régimes in China, who are taking advantage of the special status of the Settlement in carry on their lawless activities. It is incumbent upon the Settlement authorities and upon all the interested countries to accord serious consideration to the necessity of effecting a thorough control of the terrorism, anti-Japanese propaganda and all other malignant acts of these elements, and to take the requisite steps accordingly.

ORDINANCES RECENTLY PROMULGATED

PRIME MINISTER'S CABINET

Revision of Ordinance No. 220 of 1914 Designating Sea-ports for Inspection of Imported and Exported Vegetables

(Imperial Ordinance No. 62 of March 17, 1939)

In view of the increasing demand for the exportation of apples and potatoes produced in Aomori Prefecture and its neighbourhood, the new Ordinance designates Aomori Port as one of the sea-ports authorized for inspection of vegetables. This Ordinance went into force on March 25, 1939.

Revision of the Ordinance Concerning Mining in the South Sea Islands

(Imperial Ordinance No. 63 of March 17, 1939)

Owing to the discovery of some promising zinc mines in the Palau Islands in the South Sea Archipelago, this Ordinance provides for applying the Ordinance Concerning Mining in the South Sea Islands to zinc mines also in the zone.

Ordinance Concerning the Effective Date of the Amendments to the Electric Industry Law Promulgated by Law No. 79 of 1938

(Imperial Ordinance No. 64 of March 17, 1939)

Ordinance Concerning the Effective Date of Part of the Electric Power Control Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 65 of March 17, 1939)

Ordinance Concerning the Amendments to the Ordinance Relative to Operation of the Electric Power Control Law

(Imperial Ordinance No. 66 of March 17, 1939)

These Ordinances provide for operating Law No. 79 of 1938 from April 1, 1939, and the regulations stipulated under Articles 3, 4, 6, and 7

from March 18, 1939, and also for revising the Ordinance relative to operation of the Electric Power Control Law in order to operate the Regulations stipulated under Articles 3 and 4 of the same Law.

**Ordinance Concerning Operation of the Law for Abolishing
Consular Jurisdiction in Manchoukuo Promulgated
by Law No. 10 of 1939**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 71 of March 24, 1939)

In accordance with the abolition of consular jurisdiction in Manchoukuo, this Ordinance stipulates, along with other regulations for operating the Law, the distribution of jurisdictions between the court of the Government-General of Chosen and the court of the Kwantung Leased Territory concerning matters on transaction and registration of judicial and non-judicial cases under consular jurisdiction in Manchoukuo pending on April 1, 1939. This Ordinance went into operation on April 1, 1939.

**Revision of the Ordinance Concerning the Operation of the
Military Service Law**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 75 of March 25, 1939)

In accordance with the Amendments to the Military Service Law, and to the regulations concerning the branches and kinds of service, and ranking of the Army conscripts, the new Ordinance provides for abrogating the regulations concerning the short-term service system, for revising the regulations concerning calling out active service conscripts and first supplementary reservists, and also for revising the regulations concerning postponement of student conscription.

**Revision of the Ordinance Concerning Voluntary Enlistment
in the Navy**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 76 of March 25, 1939)

In accordance with the Amendments to the Military Service Law and other matters, this Ordinance provides for extending for enlisted men in the Navy the term in the reserve from 4 years to 5 years, and also the term in the second reserve from 5 years to 6 years, and for admitting enlisted men as preparatory aviation training students into the Kasumigaura Aviation Corps. This Ordinance went into operation on March 31, 1939.

Revision of the Ordinance Concerning Service of Naval Officers

(Imperial Ordinance No. 77 of March 25, 1939)

This Ordinance provides for calling out as guards and otherwise non-commissioned officers, those who have been discharged before time from active service, and in case of need, ex-service men, not only those who are in their first year in the reserve, but also those have been in it more than one year. This Ordinance went into operation on March 31, 1939.